

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0282

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ZA, RH
SUBJ: THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE: PROGRESSIVE, SOCIALIST SUPPORT

REF: (A) LUSAKA 0271, (B) LUSAKA 0272

SUMMARY: NOW THAT THE GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS HAVE FAILED, THE
LIBERATION STRUGGLE MUST LOOK TO ITS TRUE FRIENDS -- PROGRESSIVE,
SOCIALIST COUNTRIES -- FOR SUPPORT. THIS WAS A THEME
RUNNING THROUGH SPEECHES AT JASON MOYO'S FUNERAL AND THE
OPENING OF THE OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE MEETING OVER THE
WEEKEND. TIMES OF ZAMBIA EDITORIAL JAN 31 TOOK UP AND
EXPANDED ON THIS THEME. END SUMMARY.

1. A NUMBER OF RECENT SPEECHES AND ARTICLES HAVE CALLED ATTENTION
TO AFRICA'S CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE DEPENDENCE ON SOCIALIST
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COUNTRIES FOR HELP IN THE NEW PHASE OF INTENSIFIED ARMED STRUGGLE
IN RHODESIA WHICH IS BEGINNING:
A. IN HIS SPEECH AT MOYO'S BURIAL, NKOMO PLEADED FOR MORE
ASSISTANCE FROM THE PROGRESSIVE, SOCIALIST COUNTRIES -- THE
ONES WITH WHOM MOYO HAD WORKED SO SUCCESSFULLY. (REFTEL A).
B. PRESIDENT KAUNDA, SPEAKING BEFORE THE OPENING SESSION
OF THE OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE MEETING LATER IN THE DAY

MADE THE SAME POINT BUT LESS BLUNTLY (REFTEL B). HE POINTED OUT THAT, "IN THE EVENT OF A BLOODY, RACIAL WAR IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, THE WEST WILL NOT BE COUNTED ON THE SIDE OF THE OPPRESSED. WE WISH THEY WOULD, BUT HISTORY SHOWS THAT THEY WILL NOT. WE KNOW OUR ALLIES." IN ANOTHER PART OF HIS SPEECH HE NOTED THAT THOSE WHO COOPERATED IN A PEACEFUL STRATEGY LEADING TO GENEVA, "WILL NOT WORK WITH US ON THE UNBEATEN WAR PATH TO SALISBURY." HE SAID "AFRICA'S TRADITIONAL ALLIES" WOULD DO SO AND APPEALED TO THEM TO INCREASE THEIR SUPPORT OF THE "PROGRESSIVE FORCES IN ZIMBABWE."

C. MOZAMBIQUE'S FOREIGN MINISTER CHISSANO IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE LIBERATION COMMITTEE PLEDGED FULL SUPPORT TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. HE THEN SAID HE HAD FOUND DURING HIS RECENT TOUR IN EAST EUROPE, THAT THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WERE PREPARED TO GIVE UNSTINTING SUPPORT TO THE ARMED STRUGGLE.

D. PARTY NEWSPAPER TIMES OF ZAMBIA EDITORIAL JAN 31 ELABORATES ON THE NEED TO TURN TO THE EAST FOR ASSISTANCE FOR THE ARMED STRUGGLE. "THE OAU MUST EXAMINE ITS STRATEGY FOR THE LIBERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA CLOSELY SO FAR AS IT RELATES TO THE WEST." THE FRONTLINE STATES WORKED FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT WITH WESTERN COUNTRIES, THESE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE ABORTED. NEITHER THE FRONTLINE STATES NOR THE NATIONALISTS CAN BE HELD RESPONSIBLE. IN ITS STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION, AFRICA HAS RELIED ON SUPPORT FROM EASTERN COUNTRIES. "WHENEVER, AFRICA NEEDED ARMS, VOTES IN THE UN AND TRAINING FOR GUERRILLAS, THE EAST WAS READY AND WILLING." CONFIDENTIAL

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AFRICANS RECOGNIZE THAT THE EAST DID NOT ACT OUT OF ALTRUISTIC MOTIVES, BUT THE FACT REMAINS THAT THEY WERE WILLING TO HELP. TRADITIONALLY THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES HAVE FELT CLOSER TO THE EAST THAN THE WEST. HOWEVER, DESPITE ITS SHORTCOMINGS, "FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF HELPING US TO LIBERATE THE CONTINENT, THE EASTERN COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN FRIENDS IN NEED." AFRICA CANNOT DISENGAGE ECONOMICALLY FROM THE WEST IMMEDIATELY, "BUT SOONER OR LATER THE DAY OF RECKONING WILL DAWN AND AFRICA IS UNLIKELY TO FORGET WHO CAME TO HER AID WHEN SHE NEEDED HELP."

COMMENT: NOW THAT NEGOTIATIONS APPEAR TO HAVE BROKEN DOWN, WE SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR MORE PRAISE FOR EASTERN COUNTRIES AS TRUE FRIENDS OF AFRICA IN ITS HOUR OF NEED. THIS CAN BE READ AS PART OF A STRATEGY TO SECURE MORE MATERIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE EAST, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ENCOURAGING THE WEST TO PROVE ITS GOOD FAITH. KAUNDA IN HIS SPEECH TO THE LIBERATION COMMITTEE, SPELLED OUT WHAT THE WEST COULD DO: REFRAIN FROM PUTTING ROADBLOCKS IN FRONT OF THE

ARMED STRUGGLE, BRING ECONOMIC PRESSURE TO BEAR ON SMITH, THE
US BY REPEALING THE BYRD AMENDMENT AND THE WEST IN GENERAL
BY MAKING EFFECTIVE THE OIL EMBARGO ON RHODESIA. WE CAN
EXPECT GROWING PRESSURE ON THE OIL EMBARGO ISSUE AND CONTINUING
COMPARISON WITH THE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE EAST. LOW

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